

2025 Midwest Mint Growers Conference Agenda

February 27-28 – Lafayette, IN

All times are Eastern Standard Time

Thursday, February 27

- 12:30 pm Meeting Registration
- 1:00 pm Welcome – Mr. Dan Gumz, President of the Indiana Mint Market Development and Research Council
- 1:15pm College of Ag Update – Dr. Bernie Engel, Glenn W. Sample Dean of Agriculture, Purdue University
- 1:45pm Corn and Bean Outlook – Dr. Michael Langemeier, Purdue University
- 2:15pm New Weed Science Tools and Toys: Combining Work and Play for Site-Specific Management – Dr. Tommy Butts, Purdue University
- 2:45pm Pesticide Regulations Update – Phil Woolery, Purdue Extension (PARP credits for IN growers)
- 3:15pm Break**
- 3:30pm Shuttle departs hotel for campus tour
- 3:45pm Asiatic Garden Beetle Research Update – Dr. Elizabeth Long, Purdue University
Smith Hall, 901 Mitch Daniels Blvd, West Lafayette, IN 47907
- View mint grown in different soil types
 - Discuss the life cycle of insect-parasitic nematodes and their compatibility with management strategies. Look at insect parasitic nematodes under a microscope
 - Meet Catherine Hill, ENT Department Head
- 4:30pm Mint Weed Management Update – Dr. Stephen Meyers, Purdue University
HLA Plant Growth Facility, 625 Agriculture Mall Dr, West Lafayette, IN 47907
- Discuss 2024 weed management findings
 - Symptomology demonstration – various herbicides will be applied to mint, and injury symptoms will be discussed
 - Meet Linda Prokopy, HLA Department Head
 - Quick tour of HLA Plant Growth Facility by Nathan Deppe, Director of Greenhouse and Indoor Ag Facilities
- 5:15pm Shuttle returns to hotel
- 5:30pm Social Hour – Sponsored by Norwest
- 6:30pm Banquet – Keynote speaker: Vertical Farming: An industry coming into its own, or ahead of its time? Dr. Cary Mitchell, Professor Emeritus, Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Purdue University

Friday, February 28

- 8:00am Breakfast
- 9:00am Announcements
- 9:15am Research and regulatory activities report – Mr. Steve Salisbury, MIRC
Research and Regulatory Coordinator, Salem, OR
- 10:00am 2023-2024 Mint industry buyers report – Jeff Johnson, Callisons
- 11am Annual business meeting – Respective states
Richard Gumz – President, Wisconsin
Dan Gumz – President, Indiana
Tom Irrer – President, Michigan
- 12:00pm Adjourn – Have a safe trip home